the little paper

FEBRUARY 22, 2008 - MARCH 6, 2008

Bringing You Good News

VOLUME 21 NUMBER 15

Timely Tidbits ... Five Will Vie for Two School Board Seats

City of Romulus Elections Clerk Rendell Wooden reported that five candidates have registered for the Romulus Community Schools' annual Board of Education election, set for Tuesday, May 6.

Those who registered before the February 13 deadline were:

- · Carl Brooks
- · Danielle Funderburg
- Thomas Kuderik (incumbent)
- · Derran Shelby
- Jay Williams

Incumbent Betty Lenossi chose not to seek reelection.

District voters may cast their ballot for up to two candidates.

Indian Casino Bill Moves to House Floor

The House Natural Resources Committee has approved HR 4115, a bill that could pave the way for a casino in Romulus.

The legislation – sponsored by Congressman John D. Dingell – was approved on February 13, a week after Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert testified before the Committee in support of the bill.

HR 4115 would settle a dispute involving the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Indians by allowing them to take land in Romulus in exchange for their agreement to abandon claim to land in the Charlotte Beach area of the Upper Peninsula.

The resolution will face a vote of the full House sometime in the future.

Bazaar Features Craft/ Bake Sales, Cookoffs

A Benefit Bazaar for a local cancer patient will be held at Calvary Baptist Church (15221 Eureka Road, Southgate) on Saturday, March 8, from 6 to 9 p.m.

Highlights of the event will include hot-wing and chili cookoffs as well as the sale of donated baked goods and assorted craft items.

To enter one of the cookoffs or make a donation of baked goods, craft items, or cash, please call Tamra at the church (734-284-2811). Registration deadline is Friday, March 7.

Brownstown's DiSanto Receives Service Award

Joe DiSanto, Director of Economic Development for Brownstown Township, was recently honored with a Distinguished Service Award for his dedication to providing quality development and improvements for Brownstown residents.

In presenting the award, Township Supervisor Art Wright said, "Joe is being recognized for his tremendous efforts and accomplishments on behalf of the citizens of our community. He was the driving force in having Henry Ford Healthcare locate on West Road; bringing Bridgewater, the first Del Webb senior community, to Brownstown; the renovation of the Township fire stations, one of which is now complete; and the paving of Van Tel subdivision, as well as numerous other community projects.

"Probably the single most important project Joe accomplished was bringing the State and County together to install a traffic signal at King and Telegraph roads, which has greatly diminished deadly traffic accidents at that location," he added.

Wright particularly noted the importance of DiSanto's work in light of today's tough economy.

"He has saved our residents thousands of dollars using innovative means to get community improvements into place," he explained.

After the presentation, DiSanto stated, "It is an honor to work for the residents of



Art Wright (left), Supervisor of the Charter Township of Brownstown, presented Economic Development Director Joe DiSanto with a Distinguished Service plaque in recognition of his efforts on behalf of Township citizens.

Brownstown and our great team of Township employees. I thank the Supervisor for

this award, and promise to continue my efforts for the citizens of this community."

Council Considers Resolution Opposing Airport Master Plan

When it meets on Monday, February 25, the Romulus City Council plans to consider a resolution opposing Detroit Metro Airport's proposed Master Plan, according to a press release issued by the City last week. The plan, according to City officials, would displace more than 3,400 residents and eliminate much of the City's industrial zoning.

The resolution is a result of the Preferred Development Plan presented by the Airport Authority's consultants as part of the planning process.

At a February 11 Study Session, City Council discussed how the Airport's Master Plan would impact the City.

"Information submitted to the Council stated that 815 single-family properties and one 352-unit multiple-family development with an estimated 3,501 residents would be displaced, and about 10% of the City's industrial zoning would be eliminated," the City's statement read. "The Preferred Development Plan of the Airport's Master Plan proposes a new fifth parallel

runway crossing Middlebelt and Eureka roads. The plan anticipates the runway will be needed by the year 2027 to accommodate growth and expansion of future air operations. The plan would remove about three square miles of additional land area in Romulus for the expansion, and displace 16% of the residential population. The economic impact is estimated at more than \$114 million in 2007 assessed value – which would be a devastating loss for the City."

Michael Conway, Public Affairs Director for the Airport, disagrees with Lambert's assessment of the plan's long-term influence.

"When you look at a large map of the entire region served by Detroit Metropolitan Airport (DTW), a Master Plan designed to accommodate future growth in aviation makes a lot of sense," stated Conway. "According to the University of Michigan-Dearborn, activity at DTW already stimulates more than 71,000 jobs statewide and has a \$7.6 billion annual economic impact.

"The opportunity for future growth in aviation would certainly mean more jobs

and prosperity in our region," he continued. "In an era when manufacturing jobs are in decline and economic diversity is needed for future economic growth, such planning becomes imperative. However, when you zoom in closer, it is easy to see why such an expansion would cause concern within the City of Romulus."

Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert, who has taken his battles for the City's economic improvement as far as Washington, D.C., says he understands the need for Airport expansion and related development – but he believes that his hometown would pay a price too dear under the current proposal.

"While the City supports responsible expansion of the Airport, we cannot support a plan that has such a severe economic and social impact on the City," Lambert stated. "We appreciate the regional economic benefits of the Airport, but we have to look at the quality of life of our residents — and I have not seen how this plan is good for Romulus."

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Cleanup Earns Taylor Residents' Praise



The City of Taylor's demolition of this abandoned home on Beech Daly near Brest was part of an ongoing effort to improve community safety. (Photo by Kathleen Trent)

By Kathleen Trent, City of Taylor

The demolition of several unsafe, unoccupied, and abandoned structures in Taylor is being accomplished through the efforts of two City departments: the Office of Economic and Development Services and the Department of Public Works (DPW).

Some of the recent demolition work has been performed by the DPW, utilizing its own workforce to save the City money. Significant eyesores have already been removed, and the job continues.

"This work is very important to our residents," said Joseph Nardone, executive director of Economic and Development Services. "It's our job to protect the health and welfare of this community."

Most recently, the City worked to demolish an abandoned house on Beech Daly Road near Brest.

"This is the happiest day I have had in several years," said Jeff Lennon, who lived next door to the abandoned structure and was thrilled to see it torn down.

Nardone said he received similar positive comments from residents living near another abandoned house on Lincoln that was recently razed.

"Cleaning up residential and commercial areas remains a priority," said Taylor Mayor Cameron G. Priebe. "We will continue our work toward the demolition of vacant, unsafe, and deteriorating structures."

Nardone said his department has been working very closely with the owners of commercial properties to clean up their areas, as well. Two large commercial structures taken down over the last two years were the Handy Andy building (which stood vacant for more than eight years) on Telegraph Road and the Best Value Inn, commonly known as the Colonial House (a building gutted by fire last year). In addition, a vacant car wash on Goddard Road was recently demolished by DPW crews.

Nardone said the City of Taylor encourages residents to call the Code and Ordinance Division when they see unsafe conditions or violations in their neighborhood. Ordinance officers can be reached at 734-374-1470 during the City's regular business hours.

City May Oppose Airport Master Plan

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Romulus City Councilmen LeRoy Burcroff and William Wadsworth agree.

"We must voice our opposition to this plan," said Burcroff. "It is socially unacceptable to displace so many residents and small businesses ... for the benefit of the airlines and the concessionaires at the Airport."

Added Wadsworth, "This is another example of the complete disregard that the Airport [has] for the City of Romulus. The next step will likely be to expand the Airport by erasing Romulus from the map."

Lambert also feels that the Airport has not heeded the City's needs.

"We can find no evidence that consideration has been given to the existing infrastructure, the recent improvements made to Eureka Road, or the expansion of the existing terminals and runways, nor has consideration been given to the regional impact of this loss of community," he said.

In response, Conway points to a speech that Airport Authority CEO Lester Robinson gave during a Romulus Chamber of Commerce luncheon held on February 19.

"[Robinson] made a commitment to work cooperatively with the City," said Conway. "When growth in passenger traffic calls for an additional runway, and when the acquisition of residential, industrial or commercial property becomes necessary, he is committed to working with the City to relocate as many of those residents and businesses within the City limits as possible.

"Airport management is also working cooperatively with the Aerotropolis planners to encourage the kind of local development that can take advantage of the lift provided by a major international hub airport such as DTW," he added.

Conway further noted, "The additional runway shown on DTW's Master Plan will not be needed for many years into the future; however, it is important to have it shown, so that the airport authority and City can begin planning for when it becomes necessary. In fact, a Master Plan showing anticipated future projects is required by the Federal Aviation Administration of every US airport which accepts federal funds. Clearly, it would be irresponsible ... to not plan for the future.

"Please know that Airport management is listening to and understands the concerns of the City, and is committed to working closely with the City to minimize the negative impacts and maximize the positive impacts of a growing and flourishing [Airport]."

Conway also said, in response to various safety concerns that have been expressed, "Assertions that the Master Plan expansion would close Eureka and Middlebelt Roads, impacting the City's public safety response, are not true. The City has been informed several times that there is no reason that Eureka and Middlebelt Roads cannot be tunneled under the new runway—exactly the way Dingell Drive [now] tunnels under Runway 9R and 9L."

the little paper

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Romulus Swears In New Police Officer



The City of Romulus was happy to welcome the newest member of the Romulus Police Department, Officer Darryl Nippes (center), who was sworn in at City Hall on February 11. Among those who attended the ceremony were (from left) Beverly Anton (grandmother), Pat Anton (mother), Renee McUmber (girlfriend), Bill Nippes (father), Linda Nippes (stepmother), and Rita Nippes (grandmother).

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Capitol Update

By State Representative Hoon-Yung Hopgood, 22nd District of Michigan

Job-creating Biofuel Package Announced

I am proud to highlight the forthcoming alternative fuels package to be introduced in the House. The bills in this package, a part of which I have sponsored, encourage expansion in all aspects of the biofuel industry. The package will support research and development within our universities, facilitate private investment, increase the availability of biofuels, and lead to exciting advancements in technology and the growth of the industry.

Such measures capitalize on Governor Granholm's vision of establishing Michigan as a nationwide leader in renewable energy production, a commitment that will create jobs throughout the state ranging from research and design to manufacturing and distribution.

House Moves To Protect Seniors from Financial Exploitation

House Bills 5186, 5187, and 5188 passed the House last week. The bills – which expand the legal protections of seniors whose assets are overseen by a guardian or conservator – would require estate guardians to provide a court with reports detailing the financial status of any estate worth more than \$19,000, and to receive the court's permission before selling, mortgaging, or disposing of any property.

In related legislation, the recently proposed Elder Financial Protection Act would, if passed, protect seniors from both financial exploitation and physical abuse. This package of bills would enable third parties, including employees of financial institutions, to report suspected elder abuse; expand the legal definition of financial exploitation as well as the rights of those who are incapacitated; and prohibit anyone convicted of elder abuse from inheriting his/her victim's estate.

House Votes To Improve Oversight of Mortgage Lenders

As part of the House's widespread efforts to help Michigan families affected by the foreclosure crisis, the House passed a series of bills to increase the oversight, transparency, and professional competency of mortgage lenders.

Mortgage loan officers would be required to register with the state, a process to be comprised of a mandatory examination on state and federal mortgage regulations, a background check, and confirmation that the applicant has never been convicted of felony involving fraud, forgery, a financial transaction, or securities.

Applicants who do not meet or pass these requirements will be prohibited from using the title "loan officer" or similar terms as their job description, and can be fined \$15,000 and/or receive one year in jail for misrepresentation. These requirements will ensure that loan officers are well-versed in state and federal mortgage regulations, and

have no legal history of fraudulent lending practices; it will also ease worry for home buyers regarding the ethics and aptitude of their loan officer.

These bills – in conjunction with the bills the House passed last year to allow the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) to refinance adjustable-rate mortgages and offer lower, fixed-rate loans to borrowers – work to help home owners hurt by questionable lending. These efforts are particularly important in the wake of the mortgage crisis that has left the Detroit area with the highest foreclosure rate in the nation.

Caution Urged to Taxpayers Considering Refund-anticipation Loans

The House passage of House Bill 4645, which I cosponsored, takes a big step toward protecting tax filers who are offered a refund-anticipation loan by their tax preparer. Refund-anticipation loans are offered by tax preparation services based on the state and federal tax refunds the customer is expected to receive. While several companies offer fair terms, others mislead customers by charging exorbitant interest rates or misrepresenting the amount of time it takes to receive a tax return from the government.

House Bill 4645 requires that companies offering refund-anticipation loans disclose the fees, costs, and interest for the loan, as well as how long it typically takes a tax refund to be issued by the government. With the increased availability of internet filing to expedite processing, the issuance of a tax refund can take the government as little as two weeks, often negating the need to incur a high-interest loan. By requiring that this information be given to consumers, individuals considering such loans will be able to make informed decisions and weigh the loan's true costs and benefits.

Until the bill becomes law, customers should request this information if it is not readily offered by the potential lender.

Michigan's First Carpool Lane To Open February 25

In preparation for the upcoming closure of the I-75 freeway, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will open the state's first designated carpool lane on February 25. Termed a High Occupancy Vehicle Lane (HOV), the designated lane along Michigan Avenue will span from Wyoming Avenue to the Detroit Central Business District, and will allow Downriver commuters a practical alternative for traveling to downtown Detroit for the duration of I-75's 22-month closure. The HOV lane can be used by buses as well as two or more commuters traveling together by van or carpool.

Additionally, a new express bus venture, the Gateway Express, will expand the availability of busing to and from the downtown area. Interested individuals can call SMART at 866-962-5515 or DDOT at 313-933-1300 for further details.

Philpot Named Top Youth Volunteer



Renton Junior High Student Katelyn Philpot has been selected as one of Michigan's top two youth volunteers for 2008.

Katelyn Philpot, a 13-year-old resident of Brownstown Township, has been named one of Michigan's top two youth volunteers for 2008 by The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, a nationwide program honoring young people for outstanding acts of volunteerism.

The program, now in its 13th year, is conducted by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

As the middle-school and high-school division winners, respectively, Philpot and co-honoree Aida Mandic of Hamtramck each will receive \$1,000, an engraved silver medallion, and an all-expense-paid trip in May to Washington, D.C. There, they will join the top two honorees from the other 49 states and the District of Columbia for several days of events that will include a tour of the capital's landmarks, a visit to their congressional representatives on Capitol Hill, and a gala awards ceremony at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History.

The program will culminate with the selection of 10 of the students as America's top youth volunteers for 2008. Each of these students – to be chosen by a national selec-

tion committee that includes US Senator John Kerry of Massachusetts and Senator Chuck Hagel of Nebraska, as well as actor Richard Dreyfuss – will receive an additional \$5,000 award, a gold medallion, a crystal trophy, and a \$5,000 grant from the Prudential Foundation for the nonprofit, charitable organization of his/her choice.

Philpot, an eighth-grader at New Boston's Renton Junior High School, raises money to send the children of fallen police officers to a special camp every year, and also serves as a mentor to help them deal with their grief. Her own father, a police officer, was murdered by a gang member when she was just six months old. The Michigan Concerns of Police Survivors (MICOPS) came to her family's aid, and the more Philpot learned about the organization's activities, the more she wanted to contribute to its mission.

"As I began to see so many kids throughout my life that have gone through the same thing, I know that MICOPS was their guiding light," she said. "I recognized that these children needed a friend, pined for a normal life, and desperately wanted someone who understood the agony they were experiencing.

"It is very difficult to watch children shed tears and be in so much pain," she added, "but I know that sharing my story with them helps them to understand that they are not alone, and that they, too, can make it through this."

With her mother's support, Philpot takes advantage of every opportunity to tell others about MICOPS, and volunteers at a wide variety of MICOPS fund-raisers.

All public and private middle and high schools in the US, as well as all Girl Scouts councils, county 4-H organizations, American Red Cross chapters, and YMCAs were eligible to select a student or member for a local Prudential Spirit of Community Award last November. Local honorees were then reviewed by state-level judges who selected state honorees based on criteria such as personal initiative, creativity, effort, impact, and personal growth.

Philpot was nominated for consideration by the staff at Renton Junior High.

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RHS Staff Service Project Gives Injured US Soldiers "Sew Much Comfort"



Sew Much Comfort regional director Pat Quintero (center) and her husband Bob (right) presented Romulus High School principal Dan Hurst and secretaries Paula Smith (left) and Diane Bishop with a plaque recognizing the entire staff's generous donation of cash, gift cards, sewing needs, and clothing items.

Last Christmas, the staff members at Romulus High School made a real difference in the lives of wounded US soldiers through their annual holiday communityservice project.

Each year, the High School puts up a tree in the main office, and puts tags on it," explained RHS secretary Paula Smith. "All building staff are invited to choose a tag, and bring the identified item to the office or to the December staff meeting.

'This year," she continued, "the organization Sew Much Comfort was chosen for our 'giving tree.' I saw a story about them on a local news channel last year, and proposed to Principal [Dan] Hurst and the staff that we adopt them for our 2007 project. The staff responded well to this request, and we provided Sew Much Comfort with cash donations, gift cards, sewing needs and clothing items that will be altered for our men and women who have been injured while serving our country."

Smith said meeting Sew Much Comfort regional director Pat Quintero and her husband Bob was a rewarding experience.

"When I first contacted Pat, I could really feel the energy and love that she has for Sew Much Comfort, and then we met Bob, who has just as much energy and love for the organization," she explained. "Pat provided us with a wish list and, from there, tags were put on our tree. The staff really came through."

Smith said that Pat and Bob have many stories to share about the success of Sew Much Comfort, and their excitement about the organization is contagious.

"There's a Web site - www.sewmuch comfort.org - that we encourage everyone to visit. The Web site tells how the organization was started by cofounders Ginger Dosedel and Michele Cuppy. There are clips showing Ginger being honored as an ABC News 'Person of the Week,' and one of the volunteers with Sew Much Comfort visiting an injured serviceman in the hospital.

"Before there was Sew Much Comfort to alter clothing for our injured service folks, it was not uncommon for them to have only hospital gowns to wear while they recuperated in the hospital - in some cases for months at a time.

"We at Romulus High School are proud to have been able to give to such a wonderful organization."

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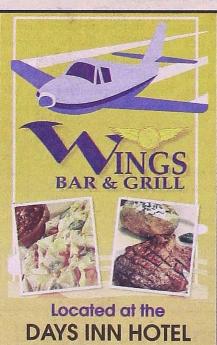
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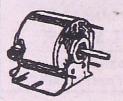
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Daddy-Daughter Dance



Seven-year-old Brooke Hilyer had a blast with her uncle, Dean Smith, at one of two Daddy-Daughter Dances held in Taylor on February 9.



Grace Peguese, age 7, and her father, Martel, enjoyed the annual event, held at the William Ford Senior Activity Center.

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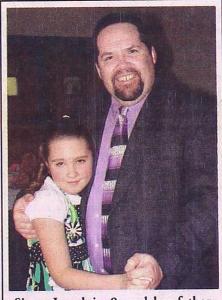
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Siarra Langlois, 9, and her father, Mike, were also among those who bought the 250+ tickets sold for this "can't miss" event.



Some girls were escorted by a special someone other than their dad. Fouryear-old Hailie Todd, for instance, came with her grandpa, Rich Todd.



Gary Bower had three times the fun with (from left) daughters Katie, Carolyn,

Community Calendar

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174–0038; FAX it to 734-992-2052; or e-mail it to thelittlepaper@comcast.net by 5 p.m. on Friday, February 29.

New Boston

Nursery School Open House

Parents of children ages 30 months to 5 years are invited to attend an Open House at Huron Countryside Cooperative Nursery (located in St. Paul Church, 19109 Craig Street) on Tuesday, March 11, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m. Information will be available on parent-tot classes for two-year-olds as well as classes for three- and four-year-olds. Families are welcome to come and meet the teacher, explore the classroom, make crafts, meet other parents and children, and enjoy refreshments.

Applications for the 2008–2009 school year will be accepted at that time.

For further information, please call HCCN at 734-753-5978 or Bambi Shelley at 734-778-0520.

Special Services at St. Paul

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church (19109 Craig Street) invites the public to attend the following "Lamb of God – Pure and Holy" special services for the Lenten/ Easter season:

- Wednesdays, through March 12, at 7 p.m.
- Maundy Thursday (March 20) at 7 p.m.
- Good Friday (March 21) at noon
- · Good Friday (March 21) at 7 p.m.
- Easter "sunrise" (March 23) at 6:30 a.m.
- Easter "morning" (March 23) at 10 a.m.
 To learn more, call 734-753-9048.

Romulus-

Romulus Little League Baseball/Softball Registration

Romulus residents ages 5 to 18 are invited to register for Romulus Little League's

MOBILE HOME FOR SALE Country Meadows

Very nice 1994, 17'x69' mobile home has 2 bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms, master bath with garden tub & standup shower, full kitchen with dishwasher & garbage disposal. Also features large deck entrance front and back with bricked pathway to shed, 3 large prepared flower/veg beds, and lots of new/replaced items. Well kept. Will take offers. \$7,700.

Call 734-778-4322

2008 baseball and softball season at the Romulus Recreation Department (11185 Shook Road) on one of the following dates:

- Friday, February 22 5 to 8 p.m.,
- Saturday, February 23 12 to 4 p.m.,
- Friday, March 7 5 to 8 p.m., and
- Saturday, March 8 12 to 4 p.m.

Cost is \$45 for one player, \$65 for two players from the same immediate family, or \$75 for three or more players. (A \$20 deposit – to be returned once four hours of volunteer time have been completed – is also required; and each player must take part in a candy-sale fund-raiser.) Player's original birth certificate and three proofs of residency must be provided.

For information, call 734-913-9646.

Pet Inoculations, Licenses, & More

The City of Romulus will host its annual "Pet Clinic" at the Department of Public Works (12600 Wayne Road, north of Eureka Road) on Saturday, February 23, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The event will give pet owners a chance to take advantage of a number of services — many at a discount rate — and benefit the Friends of the New Romulus Animal Shelter Fund at the same time.

Offers include:

- dog license fee \$7 for one year, \$12 for two years, or \$15 for three (senior citizens and owners of sterilized animals will receive an additional discount);
- dog vaccinations include rabies (\$12
 for one year or \$16 for three years),
 DHLPP, corona, and bordatella (\$31),
 and Lyme disease (\$19);
- other dog services include heart worm test (\$19), fecal analysis (\$10; bring bagged stool sample), and microchip implant (\$30);
- dog nail trimming \$5 (performed by Robin Modrzynski of Fluff 'n' Puff and Sue Clipper of Cruisin' Clippers);
- cat inoculations include rabies (\$12) and RCP and FeLV (\$19);
- other cat services heart worm test (price to be decided).

A portion of the proceeds from services performed by Dr. John Herman, Ms. Clipper, and Ms. Modrzynski will benefit the Animal Shelter Fund.

For more information, call the Romulus Animal Shelter (734-942-7591).

"Coffee Talk" with Representative Hoon-Yung Hopgood

State Representative Hoon-Yung Hopgood is inviting his constituents to attend his next "Coffee Talk" program, to be held at Romulus House Restaurant (9110 Wayne Road) on Monday, February 25, from 4 to 6 p.m. The program allows citizens to share their ideas and concerns about State government (along with free coffee and refreshments) in a pleasant, informal setting.

"Polar Science Adventure"

The Romulus Public Library (11121 Wayne Road), the Ann Arbor Exhibit Museum of Natural History, and University of Michigan science students will join together at 6 p.m. on Monday, February 25, to present Frosty Life: Surviving the Poles, the second of a three-part Family Reading/Science series aimed at kids ages 6 to 11.

For information about this hands-on, family-friendly program, call 734-942-7589.

Soul Food & Jazz Dinner

In cooperation with the school community, Romulus Middle School (37300 Wick Road) will host a Soul Food & Jazz Dinner on Wednesday, February 27, at 6:30 p.m. The annual event – a celebration of Black History Month – will feature performances by the Romulus High School Jazz Band and various church groups. Local government and school officials, ministers, and other community leaders will serve the potluck meal of dishes prepared and donated by community members.

Volunteers and food donations are still needed. All proceeds will benefit the Romulus Middle School Students Activity Fund.

All are welcome.

For further information, call RMS at 734-532-1703.

Underground Railroad History

In celebration of Black History Month, the Romulus Public Library will present "Underground Railroad History" on Thursday, February 28, at 6 p.m. The program will focus on Romulus's connection with the Underground Railroad, as well as information about "quilt codes" and songs used in secret communications. Attendees will also have a chance to create their own quilt codes.

For more information about this free program, call 734-942-7589.

Bowling Night

Romulus Little League will hold a Bowling Night fund-raiser at Romulus Lanes (37452 West Huron Drive) on Friday, February 29, beginning at 10:30 p.m. (Registration/lane assignments begin at 10 p.m.)

A cost of \$15 per person covers shoe rental, two games, mystery prize, door prizes, and pizza. Raffles will also be offered.

For information, call 734-913-9646 or e-mail <u>romuluslittleleague@comcast.net</u>.

"Texas Hold 'Em" Tournament

The Romulus Progressive Club and the Romulus High School volleyball team have scheduled a Texas Hold 'Em Tournament fund-raiser at Progressive Hall (11580 Ozga Street) on Saturday, March 8. Doors open at 6 p.m.; play begins at 6:30 p.m. First place will yield a prize of up to \$1,000 (based on a minimum of 75 entries). Buyin cost is \$50 per player. Net proceeds will benefit the RHS volleyball team.

Second Monday Book Club

Meetings of the Second Monday Book Club – open to everyone 18 and older – are held at the Romulus Public Library (11121 Wayne Road) from 7 to 8:15 p.m. Advance registration is not required for this free program; just read the suggested book, then drop in and enjoy the discussion and refreshments.

Books planned for discussion include:

- The Wedding Dress by Virginia Ellis (March 10),
- Blue Shoe by Anne Lamott (April 14),
- The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis (May 12),
- The Time Traveler's Wife by Audrey Niffenegger (June 9), and
- A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle (July 14).

For more information, ask a librarian or call 734-942-7589.

Silent Auction and Wine Tasting

The Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce will host its ninth annual Silent Auction and Wine Tasting at the Metropolitan Hotel (31500 Wick Road, Romulus) from 6:15 to 10 p.m. on Friday, March 14.

Participants will also enjoy a menu of hors d'oeuvre (crab vol au vent with a sweet remoulade), salad (mesclun mix with roma tomato; served with a cherry or balsamic vinaigrette), entrée (petit filet of beef with a pine nut borsin demi and seared mahi mahi, Yukon gold mashed potatoes, and steamed asparagus with baby carrots), and dessert (forest berry mousse in a tulip cup).

Tickets are \$50 each.

For more information, call the Chamber (734-893-0694).

Scrapbooking Event

Romulus Little League is inviting the public to a Scrapbooking fund-raiser to be held at the Community United Methodist Church (11160 Olive Street) on Saturday, March 15, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

A cost of \$30 per person covers four feet of crop space, lunch, dinner, and door prizes. Scrapbooking-related items will be available for sale from independent consultants from various companies. Raffle tickets will also be sold.

For information, call 734-913-9646 or e-mail romuluslittleleague@comcast.net.

Historical Society Meets

The next meeting of the Romulus Historical Society will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 19, at the Romulus Historical Museum (11120 Hunt Street). The public is welcome.

Easter Bowl-a-Thon

St. Aloysius Catholic Church will host an Easter Bowl-a-Thon fund-raiser at Romulus Lanes (37452 West Huron River Drive) on Saturday, March 29, at 1 p.m.

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Go "Bowling for Jobs" with Goodwill

Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit has opened registration for the first annual Goodwill's Motor City Bowl-A-Thon. The month-long event, which runs throughout March, is the first of its kind in the region, and will encourage Metro Detroiters to "Bowl for Jobs" at 11 area bowling centers in an effort to raise thousands of dollars to put people to work in southeast Michigan.

Registration information and other details are available on the Goodwill's Motor City Bowl-A-Thon Web site, located at www.MotorCityBowlAThon.com. Blue Ribbon Quality Bowling Centers will host the event at 11 locations throughout Metro Detroit.

"The Bowl-A-Thon is an opportunity for families, co-workers, neighbors, and friends to get together, have a fantastic time, and contribute to a cause that impacts everyone in Michigan," said Ed Deeb, co-chairman of Goodwill's Motor City Bowl-A-Thon. "Every pin that falls and every dollar raised will help put people to work in this region."

The total cost to participate in Good-will's Motor City Bowl-A-Thon is \$150 per team of three, four or five individuals. Each participating team member will receive two games of bowling, shoe rental, two pieces of pizza or two hot dogs, and a soft drink. Proceeds from all registration fees benefit Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit.

"Everyone in southeast Michigan recognizes the importance of jobs to the future of our communities," said Jerry Harris, cochairman of the Bowl-A-Thon. "We're looking forward to providing the places where bowlers from across the region can come together to support this initiative."

Event registrants may bowl at any of the following locations:

- · Beech Lanes, Redford
- Cherry Hill Lanes, Dearborn Heights
- Drakeshire Lanes, Farmington Hills
- Ford Lanes, Dearborn Heights
- · Luxury Lanes, Ferndale
- Mayflower Lanes, Redford
- · Novi Bowl, Novi
- Taylor Lanes, Taylor
- Thunderbird Lanes, Troy
- Westland Bowl, Westland

• Woodland Lanes, Livonia
Eligible participants will have the opportunity to win a number of prizes, including a lease on a new vehicle for the individual bowler with the highest score among all participants, and two trips to tropical destinations. Any bowler recording a perfect 300 score during the Bowl-A-Thon will have the chance to win an all-terrain vehicle from Motor City Harley-Davidson.

The first bowler rolling a "turkey"

HELP WANTED for NEW SALON

Looking for a licensed stylist, barber, braiders, nail technician, and esthetician for a new salon opening at 9223 Wayne Road in Romulus.

Call 734-444-9120

(three strikes in a row) on each team will win a \$15 Meijer Gift Card courtesy of Meijer. Every participant will also be entered into a raffle for a number of other prizes.

Those wishing to contribute to the Bowl-A-Thon, but are unable to bowl, may submit a suggested donation of \$30 via the event Web site. By doing so, donors will be eligible for the raffle. Complete information on available prizes can be found at www.MotorCityBowlAThon.com.

In addition to prizes awarded for bowling accomplishments, Goodwill's Motor City Bowl-A-Thon also will award a prize to the team producing the best one- to two-minute video promoting the fund-raiser. All entries will be judged by representatives from Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit and Blue Ribbon Quality Bowling Centers. Entries will be shown on Goodwill-Industries of Greater Detroit's YouTube Web site, www.youtube.com/goodwilldetroitpr.

Instructions for entering the YouTube Video Award contest may be found at www.MotorCityBowlAThon.com. The winning team will receive up to five digital video camcorders.

Special events during Goodwill's Motor City Bowl-A-Thon include:

- March 16 WNIC-FM radio personality Chris Edmonds will appear from 1 to 5 p.m. at Novi Bowl (21700 Novi Road)
- March 29 WYCD-FM radio personality Dr. Don will appear from 1 to 3 p.m. at Taylor Lanes (24800 Eureka)
- March 30 WRIF-FM radio personality "Screamin" Scott Randall will appear from 1 to 5 p.m. at Luxury Lanes (600 East Nine Mile Road, Ferndale)

"At its core, the mission of Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit is to put people to work, not just in the city of Detroit, but throughout southeast Michigan," said Lorna G. Utley, President and CEO of Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit. "This area is recognized as the bowling capital of the world, and the Bowl-A-Thon is an opportunity for residents to pull together to create jobs, retool the workforce, and make an impact, all while having fun."

The organization's clients include individuals facing a wide range of barriers to employment. Many were recently laid off and left lacking the skills to find new work in the changing economy. Others require assistance developing the "soft" life skills necessary to communicate with customers and handle stressful situations. Still others suffer from physical or mental disabilities, or have transportation or housing issues.

Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit provides people with opportunities to become independent, self-supporting citizens through training, work experience and employment in the community. In 2007, the organization successfully put nearly 1,500 residents to work in the counties of Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb, and provided nearly 14,000 individuals with employment and training services.

Romulus Hosts Mother-Son Valentine Dance



The annual Mother-Son Valentine Dance, held at Romulus High School on February 13, was another smashing success. The event, hosted by the City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation, drew more than 200 people.

Community Calendar

continued from page 8

For further details, call Romulus Lanes (734-941-6200) or Joe Ozog (941-3466).

"Legacy Five" in Concert

Bethany Bible Church of Belleville will present "Legacy Five" in concert in the auditorium at Romulus High School (9650 Wayne Road) on Friday, April 11, at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$12 in advance, or \$14 at the door (if available).

* For information, call 734-697-7456 or visit www.bethanybiblechurch.com.

Bowl-a-Thon

The Friends of the New Romulus Animal Shelter will host its fourth Bowl-a-Thon fund-raiser at Romūlus Lanes (37452 West Huron River Drive) on Friday, April 25, at 7 p.m.

For further details, call Romulus Lanes (734-941-6200) or Romulus City Councilman Bill Wadsworth (941-0616).

Taylor

"Coffee Talk" with Representative Hoon-Yung Hopgood

State Representative Hoon-Yung Hopgood is inviting his constituents to attend his next "Coffee Talk" program, to be held at the Downriver Council for the Arts (20904 Northline Road) on Friday, February 22, from 9 to 11 a.m. The program allows citizens to share their ideas and concerns about State government (along with free coffee and refreshments) in a pleasant, informal setting.

Ventriloquist Show

Ventriloquist Brian Bozman and his pal CD will be featured in a fund-raiser to be held at 7 p.m. on Friday, February 29, at American Legion Post 200 (11800 Michael Street, just north of Brest Road between Telegraph and Beech Daly roads). Tickets for the event – \$15 per person or \$25 for two – cover entertainment, beer, and setups. Fish dinners and other foods will be available for order until 8:30 p.m.

For tickets, call Jan (313-292-3639) or Annie (313-404-0717). Tickets will also be available at the door.

Elsewhere

"Women for Healthy Hearts" Fashion Show

Soroptimist International of the Flat Rock Area – a volunteer service organization for business and professional women dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls – will host a "Women for Healthy Hearts" Fashion Show fund-raiser on Thursday, February 28, at Crystal Gardens (16703 Fort Street, Southgate).

Besides a display of men's and women's fashions, program highlights will also include a silent auction, raffles, and health screenings performed by Oakwood Hospital professionals.

Advance tickets (\$35) are available by calling Evelyn at 734-676-4296. Tickets will also be available at the door for \$40.

Bazaar Features Cookoffs, Bake/Craft

A Benefit Bazaar for a local cancer patient will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, March 8, at Calvary Baptist Church (15221 Eureka Road, Southgate).

Highlights of the event will include hot-wing and chili cookoffs as well as the sale of donated baked goods and assorted craft items.

To enter one of the cookoffs or make a donation of baked goods, craft items, or cash, call the church (734-284-2811) and ask for Tamra. Registration deadline is Friday, March 7.

"Sassy Seniors" News

For more information about these or other programs, contact the appropriate senior center or other organization.

Brownstown

21311 Telegraph • 734-675-0920

Adult Enrichment Classes

The Brownstown Senior Center will be offering several new enrichment classes for ages 18 and up during the coming months. Classes will include:

- Arthritis Foundation Exercise Classes

 beginner (10 to 10:45 a.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays starting June 2;
 \$30 for residents or \$35 for nonresidents) and advanced (11 to 11:45 a.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays starting June 2;
 \$30 for residents or \$35 for nonresidents);
- Acrylic Painting 10 to 10:45 a.m. on Mondays starting June 2; \$40 for residents or \$45 for nonresidents;
- Watercolor Painting 10 to 10:45 a.m. on Mondays starting June 2; \$40 for residents or \$45 for nonresidents;
- Digital Photography 10 to 10:45 a.m. on Mondays starting June 2; \$40 for residents or \$45 for nonresidents;
- Scrapbooking 1 to 3 p.m. on Mondays; start date TBA; \$40 per person.

Craft Classe

Medilodge of Taylor will sponsor a free one-day craft class at the Brownstown Community Center on Wednesday, March 19. Preregister at the front desk.

Bowling

Local seniors are encouraged to come and bowl at Flat Rock Lanes (14700 Telegraph Road) each Friday at 1 p.m. No need to preregister. For more information, call the Center.

Travel Club

Brownstown residents who would like to join the Travel Club should pick up a registration form at the Center's front desk. Advantages of membership include discounts on trips offered by the Center. Membership is \$10 per year.

The group's next meeting is set for Monday, March 10, at 11 a.m.

"Red Hatters" Plan Trip to Zehnder's

The Red Hat Society's Brownstown Chapter is planning a trip to Zehnder's of Frankenmuth on Tuesday, April 22. A cost of \$45 per person includes transportation, a chicken dinner and dessert, entertainment, and door prizes.

Note that members and guests must dress in "full regalia" (red hat and purple outfit for women 50 and over; pink hat and lavender outfit for women under 50) when attending Red Hat Society meetings and events.

Membership is free.

Other Trips

Area seniors are invited to take part in one or more of the following trips.

- "It's a Great Day To Be Irish" (Monday, March 10; \$79 cost includes transportation, admission, and lunch),
- Point Edward Charity Casino and Hiawatha Racetrack (Tuesday, March 11; \$29 cost includes transportation, \$20 in casino incentives, and a stop at the Duty Free Shop),
- DSO "The Beat Goes On" (Thursday, March 27; \$50 cost includes transportation, continental breakfast, admission to the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's performance, and lunch afterward), and
- "Moonlight Magnolias" (Saturday, March 29; \$67 cost includes transportation, admission to "Moonlight Magnolias" at Meadow Brook Theatre, and lunch at Canterbury Village).

Call the Center for more information.

Regular Events

Regular programs offered by the Center include:

- euchre (Tuesdays, 12:30 p.m.),
- quilting (Wednesdays, 9 a.m.),
- blood-pressure checks (first Thursdays, noon),
- bowling (Fridays, 1 p.m., Flat Rock Lanes), and
- exercise (Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 10 a.m.; \$.25 donation/class).

Hot Lunches

Don't forget that the Senior Center serves a hot lunch at noon each weekday (except for holidays) for a suggested donation of only \$2.25.

Call by noon at least one business day in advance to make your reservation.

Romulus

36525 Bibbins • 734-955-4120

Tax Preparation Services

AARP will be at the Romulus Senior Center from 12:30 to 3 p.m. each Wednesday through April 9 to provide tax preparation assistance to senior citizens (age 60 and older), low-income individuals, and persons with disabilities.

Tax services will also be offered at the Romulus Tower senior apartments building on Fridays (except Good Friday).

This service is available by appointment only. Call to make your reservation.

A list of items to be brought to your appointment is available from the Center. **Culinary Class**

Get tips on food preparation and presentation in the Romulus Senior Center's second culinary class, set for Friday, March 14, at 11 a.m.

Cost to be announced (no more than \$10). Preregistration is required. Everyone is welcome!

March Luncheon

Celebrate Easter at this month's luncheon, to be held at the Center at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 13. Highlights will include a menu of ham, scalloped potatoes, steamed vegetables, beverages, and dessert (banana pudding and cake). Participants are encouraged to dress up in formal attire, Easter bonnets, or funny costumes.

Cost is \$4.50. Advance registration is equired.

Jewelry Class

The next of Maria Lambert's alwayspopular jewelry classes will be held on Wednesday, March 26, at 12:30 p.m.

Cost is \$10. Preregister at the Center.

Upcoming Trips

Call the Senior Center for more information about any of the following trips.

- Casino Windsor (Thursday, March 13; \$10).
- Atlantic City (March 16-20; \$450),
- Cornwell (Turkeyville) (Tuesday, April 15; \$75).
- Windsor Racetrack (Wednesday, April 23; \$10),
- Historic Sauder Village (Friday, May 2; \$70), and
- Holland Tulip Festival (May 6-7; \$150).

Shopping Trips

Romulus seniors are invited to ride the Center's van, free of charge, for Monday morning (9:30 a.m.) shopping trips to:

- Meijer/Southland (March 3)
- Wal-Mart (March 10), and
- Kmart (March 17).

Reservations are accepted on a first-come/first-served basis.

Regular Programs

Free or low-cost weekly programs offered at the Romulus Senior Center include:

- bunco (Tuesdays, 1 p.m.),
- bingo (Wednesdays, 1 p.m.),
- fun night (Wednesdays, 5 p.m.),
- game day (Thursdays, 1 p.m.),
- · quilting (Thursdays, 6 p.m.), and
- · chair exercise (Fridays, 1 p.m.).

Hot Lunches

Don't forget that the Senior Center serves a hot lunch at 11:30 a.m. each week-day (except for holidays) for a suggested donation of only \$2.25.

Call by noon at least one business day in advance to make your reservation.

Taylor

6750 Troy • 313-291-7740

Tax Preparation Services

Volunteers at the Ford Senior Center will help senior citizens and persons with disabilities prepare Homestead Property Tax returns each Monday, and other tax returns each Thursday. Most returns will be electronically filed.

This service is available by appointment only. Call to make your reservation.

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day!

Don't miss the Ford Senior Center's St. Patrick's Day celebration, which will feature a catered meal and musical entertainment.

Tickets for the event – to be held on Friday, March 14, from 2 to 6 p.m. – are \$12 per person. Preregistration (by Friday, March 7) is required.

Great Lakes Banjo Convention

If you love bluegrass/banjo music, you won't want to miss this show! Bus departs from the Center at 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 26, and returns at about midnight.

A cost of \$12 per person includes transportation and admission. Be prepared to pay for dinner on your own.

Golf Registration

Registration for the *Wednesday Senior Mixed League* substitutes is open through April. Fees for substitutes are \$5. Registration for the *Lakes Mixed League* and *Lakes Men's League* will also continue through April. Fees are \$9 for each.

Birthday Bash

If you were born in February, and are 55 or older, come out to the Center's next Birthday Bash, set for Thursday, February 28, from 1 to 3 p.m. Cake, ice cream, and karaoke will be among the attractions.

There's no charge to attend; simply preregister by Monday, February 25.

Wood-carvers Meet

Local wood-carvers meet at the Ford Senior Center every Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. Anyone interested in taking up this hobby, either again or for the first time, is welcome to stop in and see what it's all about. Craft Day

On the first Thursday of each month, local seniors who have a craft project that they would like to finish can come to the Center and spend the day working on it in the company of like-minded friends – old and new!

Wayne County Chore Program

The Wayne County Chore Program provides lawn-mowing, leaf-raking, and snow-removal services, as well as minor home repairs and home-care installations (ramps, grab-bars, etc.). Individuals whose income falls within specified guidelines receive the service free of charge; those with incomes above the minimum are asked to make a small donation. (Amount requested will be determined by the services rendered and the recipient's income.)

For information on how to qualify, call the Senior Alliance (734-722-2830) and ask for the Chore Services Coordinator.

Blood Pressure Checks

Stop in at the Center for a free blood pressure check between 8:30 and 11 a.m. on Thursday, February 28.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

If you are a resident of Belleville, Brownstown, New Boston, Romulus, or Taylor, the little paper will be happy to print an announcement of your new addition (child or grandchild). If possible, please enclose a photograph of your new arrival. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

the little paper

P.O. Box 74038 Romulus, MI 48174-0038

Baby's Name		
Birthdate		
Weight	Length	
Birthplace		
Parents		
Address		
City	State	Zip
Siblings		
Maternal Grandparents	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
Address		
City	State	Zip
Paternal Grandparents		
Address		
City	State	Zip
Name and phone number of person	n to contact (in case of qu	uestions):

ENGAGEMENT/WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

If you, or your parents, are residents of Belleville, Brownstown, New Boston, Romulus, or Taylor, *the little paper* will be happy to print an announcement of your engagement or wedding. If possible, please enclose a photograph. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

the little paper

P.O. Box 74038 Romulus, MI 48174-0038

Bride's Name	
City	State
Groom's Name	
City	State
Bride's Parents	
City	State
Groom's Parents	
City	State
Bridesmaids	
Date of Engagement	
Place	
City	State
Reception	
	State
Name and phone number of person	on to contact (in case of questions):

Attach any additional information concerning the wedding or engagement to this form.

Obituaries

Hubert G. Gilbert, Jr.

Hubert G. Gilbert, Jr., of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on Friday, February 15, 2008, at the age of 72.

The native of Detroit, Michigan, was born on Wednesday, December 11, 1935.

Hubert – a US Navy veteran who served during the Korean and Vietnam conflicts – was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9568 (Romulus) as well as the Loyal Order of Moose (Belleville). His many interests included shooting pool, bowling, golfing, hunting, camping, and playing the lottery.

Surviving Hubert are his wife, Dolores (Cavanagh) Gilbert; 2 daughters, Margaret (Lee) Prybyla (Romulus) and Melinda (Steve) Shellman (Romulus); a brother, Leon (Shirley) Gilbert (Naples, FL and Atlanta, MI); a sister, Josephine Allen (Crescent City, FL); and 4 grandchildren.

Among those who preceded him in passing were his parents, Hubert G. Sr. and Margaret (Kasin) Gilbert, and a sister, Rose.

A funeral service was held on Monday, January 18, at St. Aloysius Catholic Church (Romulus), with Father Festus Ejimadu officiating. Burial was at Romulus Memorial Cemetery. Arrangements were entrusted to Crane Funeral Home (Romulus).

Memorial contributions to the Romulus Rescue Squad would be greatly appreciated by the family.

Reverend Charlotte B. Huby

Reverend Charlotte B. Huby of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on Friday, February 1, 2008, at the age of 58.

The native of Detroit, Michigan, was born on Saturday, May 7, 1949.

Charlotte held a master's degree in early childhood education, and was employed as a teacher at Mark Twain Elementary School in Detroit. (Previously, she taught at Beacon Public School.) Besides being affiliated with First Baptist Church (Romulus), where she taught Sunday school and participated in other activities, Charlotte was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and the Detroit Federation of Teachers (Local 231, American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO). She also participated in the United Conference for Women. Her interests included traveling and collecting angels.

She was truly an inspiration to all.

Surviving Charlotte are her son, Edwin J. (Stephanie) Huby (Detroit); her daughter, Dr. Nicole M. Huby (Livonia, MI); 3 grand-children, Edwin Jr., Stephen, and David; and 4 sisters, Sharon (Comer) McNeil (Detroit), Deborah (Mendrate) Love (Detroit), Brenda (Harold) Sullivan (Belleville, MI), and Wanda L. Mayes (Detroit).

Among those who preceded her in passing were her parents, Charles E. and Dorothy (Marion) Mayes.



Reverend Charlotte B. Huby

A funeral service was held on Friday, February 8, at First Baptist Church, with Reverend Charles P. Woolridge officiating. Burial was at Romulus Memorial Cemetery.

Arrangements were entrusted to Crane Funeral Home (Romulus).

Carol Lynn Shafer

Carol Lynn Shafer of Wayne, Michigan, passed away on Monday, February 18, 2008, at the age of 62.

The native of Allegan, Michigan, was born on Thursday, January 24, 1946.

After graduating from Allegan High School in 1964, she worked for Northwest Airlines for 42 years – most recently as a cargo supervisor.

Carol is survived by 2 sisters, Linda (Chuck) Colley (Constantine, MI) and Mary (Brad) Adams (Kalamazoo, MI); a brother, Ron (Jo) Shafer (Kalamazoo); a sister-in-law, Teri Shafer (Knoxville, TN); 6 nephews and nieces, Chris Colley and Michelle An-

derson (Constantine), Jeff Shafer (Kalamazoo), and Lori, Chris, and Jennifer Shafer (FL); grandniece Amber Anderson (Constantine); friends John and Robin Weaver (Wayne), and many friends and fellow employees at Northwest Airlines.

Among those predeceasing her were her parents, Gerald and Ina (Roblyer) Shafer, and two brothers, Jim and Jerry Shafer.

No public service was held. Cremation rites were accorded.

Arrangements were entrusted to Eley Funeral Home (Constantine).

Memorial contributions to your local Humane Society would be appreciated.

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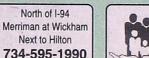
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